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GENEALOGY.

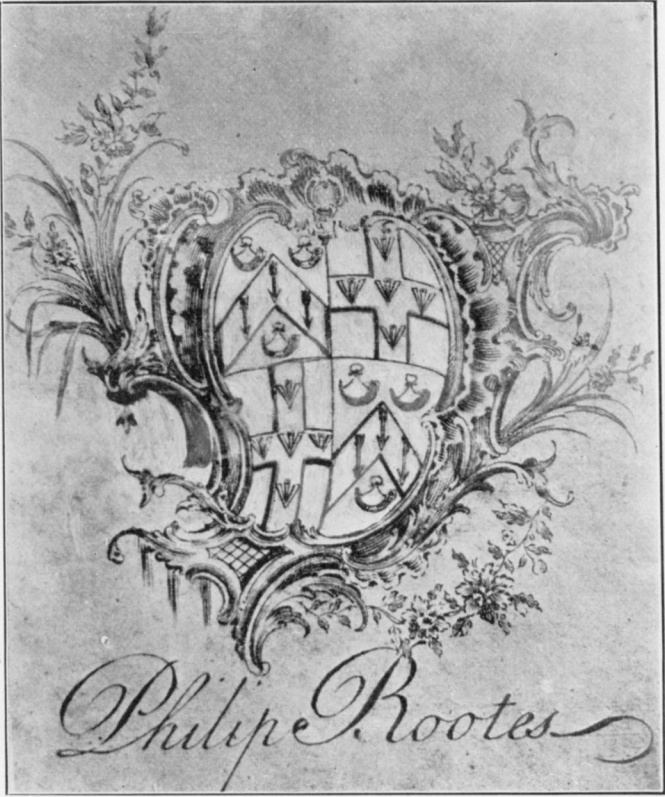
THE ROOTES FAMILY.

BY T. R. ROOTES, OF "WHITEMARSH," 1816, WITH GENEALOGICAL NOTES ON THE CONNECTED FAMILIES OF ROOTES, READE, MARTIAN, GWYN, BERNARD, HIGGINSON, THOMPSON, THORNTON, GRVMES, COBB, GORDON, LEA, JACKSON, MINOR, RUTHERFORD, SMITH, MELL, LIPSCOMB, WHITNER, &C., OF VIRGINIA AND GEORGIA.

"George Reade [*a*], a gent. of Hampshire, brought his fortunes into Virginia in the year 1640 and was immediately made one of his Majesty's Council. He intermarried with Mrs. Marhes, one of the daughters of Capt. Marhes [*b*] a French gentleman, who was the proprietor of all the property about York. Thomas Reade [*c*], (3d) son of George Reade and Mrs. Marhes, married Lucy Gwin, the daughter of Edward Gwin [*d*] and Lucy Bernard a regular Doctor of Physick, who was son to Rev'd John Gwin [*e*] Rector of Abingdon Parish many years, and who came to Virginia in Cromwell's time, he being a very stiff Churchman. Lucy Bernard was daughter of William Bernard Esq. [*f*], one of his Majesty's Council of Virginia, and was the son of the Knight of Huntingdon; and a daughter of Col. Hickerson of Dublin [*g*], who was the relict of Lewis Burwell, Esq. The said Thomas Reade and Lucy his wife had eleven children, one of whom (Mildred) married Major Philip Rootes of King and Queen [*h*] and had many children, and whose second son was named Thomas Reade Rootes, and was the father of Thomas Reade Rootes (of White Marsh) who writes this part of his genealogy this 15th of March, 1816. Compiled from an ancient paper that contains much more of interest to this writer."

NOTES.

[*a*] The first clue to the ancestry of George Reade was the fact, shown by several letters in the 1st Vol. *English Calendar of Colonial State Papers*, that he had a brother, Robert Reade, who was private secretary to Sir Francis Windebanke, Secretary of State of England, *temp.* Charles I. General Meredith Reade, formerly American Consul at Paris, who, though not related to this family, felt an interest in the name, made researches and published the result in the *London Athenaeum* of April 28, 1894. He ascertained that George Reade was a descendant of the Reades of Facombe, in the county of Southampton. In 1585 Andrew Reade bought the manor of Linkenholt, Hampshire. His will, dated October 7, 1619, with a codicil November 15, 1621, was proved



October 24, 1623. He owned the manor and rectory of Faccombe, married — Cooke, of Kent, and had five sons, Henry, Robert, John, George and Andrew, and four daughters. The eldest son, Henry, of Faccombe, J. P. for Hampshire, married Anne, daughter of Sir Thomas Windebanke, and died April 4, 1647. George Reade is mentioned in his father's will as having issue. The fourth son, John, was born at Faccombe 1579, was a scholar of Winchester College 1591, and admitted to New College, Oxford, February 4, 1598. He probably died before his father. The second son of Andrew was Robert Reade, who lived at Linkenholt, and was married three times. His third wife was Mildred, daughter of Sir Thomas Windebanke, of Haine's Hill, parish of Hurst, Berkshire, who was clerk of the signet to Elizabeth and James, and died October 24, 1607. Sir Thomas Windebanke's wife was Frances, daughter of Sir Edward Dymoke, of Scrivelsby, Lincolnshire, hereditary Champion of England. Robert Reade's will was dated December 10, 1626. Robert and Mildred (Windebanke) Reade had issue: I. Andrew, mentioned in the House of Lords Calendar as "Andrew Reade, D. D., of Lurgershall, Wilts;" II. William; III. Dr. Thomas, born at Linkenholt 1606, was admitted scholar of New College, Oxford, December 10, 1624; Fellow January 15, 1626; LL. D. 1638; Principal of Magdalen Hall, Oxford, 1643. In 1642 he volunteered in the King's army and saw some service; but on the decline of the Royal cause, went to France and became a Catholic priest. In 1659 he published in Paris a work in defence of Catholicism. He returned to England at the Restoration and died in 1669. There is a sketch of his life in the *Dictionary of National Biography*, which states that he was a brother to Robert Reade, who was secretary to his uncle, Sir Francis Windebanke; IV. Robert, just referred to as secretary to Windebanke. In March, 1641, he was in Paris, having probably fled abroad with Windebanke to escape prosecution by Parliament, which was then bringing to account the agents of Charles the First's misgovernment. He was living in 1669; V. George, who came to Virginia.

George Reade came to Virginia in 1637, and is several times mentioned in letters in Vol. I, *Calendar of Colonial State Papers*. He was a friend and adherent of Governor Harvey and Secretary Kemp, and when Kemp was in England in 1640, was appointed Secretary of State *pro tem*. He was Burgess for James City county in 1649 (*Hening* I, 358) and again in December, 1656 (*Ibid*, 421), probably for Gloucester. He was elected member of the Council March 13, 1657-8 (*Ibid*, 432), and again elected April 3, 1658 (*Ibid*, 505), holding the office until his death in 1671 (*General Court Minute Book*). On November 20, 1671, the will of Colonel George Reade was admitted to probate in the General Court on the oaths of Mr. Thomas Reade and Henry Richardson. (Colonel Reade had a contemporary and kinsman, Thomas Reade, who lived in York county.)

[*b*] Captain Nicholas Martian was born 1591 (Hotten's Emigrants) and probably came to Virginia before 1620. There is on record in Northampton county an order of Assembly, dated March 28th, 1656, which states that Captain Nicholas Martian obtained his denization in England, and could hold any office or employment in Virginia. He was justice of York county from 1633 to 1657 (*York Records*); Burgess 1623; for Kiskyache and the Isle of Kent 1631, and for Kiskyache 1632 and 1632-3 (*Hening* I, 129, 154, 179, 203.) His will dated March 1st, 1656, and proved April 24, 1657, is on record in York county, and divides his estate between his daughters Elizabeth wife of Col. George Reade Esq.; Mary wife of Lieutenant Colonel John Scarsbrook, and Sarah wife of Captain William Fuller [at one time governor of Maryland.]

[*c*] The records of York county show that Colonel George Reade had a son Thomas. An act of Assembly passed Nov. 1769, recites that Edmund Gwyn, late of Gloucester, deceased, possessed a tract of land of 550 acres in the parish of Ware, Gloucester, and by his will dated March 10, 1683, he devised said land to his son John Gwyn, and in the event of his death without issue, to his daughter Lucy Gwyn, and soon after died; and said John entered into possession and was succeeded by his sister Lucy, who married Thomas Reade, of Gloucester deceased and by him had issue Thomas Reade, her eldest son, and John Reade her second son; and the said Lucy dying, her son Thomas entered into possession, and dying without issue, was succeeded by the said John Reade, late of the county of King and Queen, Clerk, deceased, and on his death the land descended to his only daughter and heir, Sarah, now the wife of John Rootes, Gentleman. The act also recites that Mildred Warner, relict of Augustine Warner, of Gloucester, Esquire, possessed a tract of land given her by her father George Reade Esq., lying at Cheescake in Gloucester, which by her will dated Jan. 4, 1694, she left to two of her sons, with reversion to her brothers Robert, Frances, Benjamin and Thomas Reade, and the sons dying without issue, the land was divided, and two tracts of 200 and 485 acres respectively, became vested in Thomas Reade, who left issue, as above, Thomas and John Reade, and this land also became vested in Sarah wife of John Rootes (*Hening* viii, 483.) As this act was only intended to affect lands inherited by the heir of John Reade, it is no evidence as to whether Thomas Reade (son of Col. George,) had other children.

There is near Gloucester Court House the tomb of "Tho. Reade Gent, Eldest son of Tho. Reade gent.," who died April 27th 1739 in his 42d year, and also the tomb of "Mrs. Lucy the wife of Mr. John Dixon of Bristol [Eng.] Daughter of Mr. Thos. Reade," who died Nov. 22d, 1731, aged 30 years.

[*d*] See preceeding note. Edmund Gwyn had grants of land in Gloucester in 1678 and 1684.

[e] Various records show that John Gwyn was minister of Ware parish, Gloucester, in 1672, and of Abington in 1674 and 1680.

[f] Colonel Wm. Bernard appears, from the land grants, to have settled in Nansemond Co., Virginia, about 1640, and to have become in a short time, member of the council. Perhaps he was appointed before coming to the Colony. He was frequently present at meetings of the Council, between March, 1642-3, and March, 1659-60. (*Hening* I, 239, 526, &c.)

As the records of Nansemond have been destroyed his will cannot be found. The records of York county show that in 1653 his wife was Lucy, widow of Lewis Burwell, and heir of Robert Higginson. He died before Oct., 1667, as his widow Lucy, was then the wife of Philip Ludwell.

"Knight of Huntington," in Mr. Rootes's account, probably refers to Francis Bernard, who for forty years resided in the town of Huntington, England; represented it in Parliament, was first created a knight and afterwards baronet, and died in 1666, in his 66th year. The English pedigrees show that he was not the father of Col. Wm. Bernard. The latter may however have belonged to the same family. In Baker's "Northamptonshire" is a pedigree of the family of Bernard of Abingdon, in in that county. The various branches are not fully carried out, and it is possible that Wm. Bernard was a brother of Sir Robert (who was son of Francis Bernard of Kingsthorpe, and grandson of Francis Bernard of Abingdon, who died in 1602,) or he may have been a son of Thomas Bernard, of Reading, Berkshire, who was also a son of the last named Francis Bernard. Foster's "Grays Inn Matriculations," shows that "Wm. Bernard of Abingdon, Co. Northampton, Gent.," entered Gray's Inn Nov. 1, 1631.

[g] Captain Robert Higginson (a name that appears to have been commonly pronounced Hickerson) seems to have been prominent as an Indian fighter. In 1646 and earlier he commanded at the Middle Plantation, a palisaded settlement. A deed, recorded in York Aug. 24, 1682, states that for his services he was given 100 acres at the Middle Plantation. He seems also to have owned lands in Martin's Hundred. The epitaph of his daughter Lucy (who died Nov. 6, 1675,) on her tomb in the Burwell graveyard at "Carter's Creek," Gloucester, only states that she was the widow of Major Lewis Burwell, and that, "She was descended from the Ancient family of the Higginsons. She was ye only Daughter of the valliant Capt. Robert Higginson. One of the first command'rs that subdued the country of Virginia from the power of the heathen."

[h] 1. MAJOR PHILIP¹ ROOTES, the earliest ancestor to whom the Virginia family has been traced, lived at "Rosewall," in King and Queen Co., immediately opposite West Point. He is mentioned in a record

dated 1738, as "Major Philip Rootes of King and Queen," and was a justice of that county in 1739, and a vestryman of Stratton Major Parish. Besides his estate in King and Queen, he owned lands in New Kent and Orange, and lots in Fredricksburg. He married Mildred daughter of Thomas Reade, and died in 1756. His will was dated Aug. 3d, 1756 and was proved in King and Queen, with John Robinson, President of the Council, Humphrey Hill and his sons Philip and Thos. Reade, executors. (See cases reported in 6 *Call.*, 21; and 6 *Mumford* 87, and also will of Susanna Livingston of Spotsylvania, who names several of his children.

Issue. 2. Col. Philip² Rootes, of "Rosewall," King and Queen, eldest son; was sheriff of that county in 1765. In June, 1787, was advertised for sale the land "where Col. Philip Rootes, deceased, lived," in King and Queen Co., opposite West Point. He married, Dec. 2 1756, Frances Wilcox, (Middlesex Records), and was probably father or grandfather of Edmund Wilcox Rootes, a prominent lawyer and recorder of Richmond city, who died Feb. 11, 1836; 3. THOMAS READE;² 4. John⁴ was a Captain in Byrd's (2d Va.) regiment, in the French and Indian War, and died before 1798, leaving an only son Philip, then alive (*Journal House of deligates*) John Rootes lived in Gloucester in 1774, and it is probable that his son was the Philip Rootes of Gloucester, appointed lieutenant U. S. A. in 1800. John Rootes married, March 26, 1760, Sarah Reade, (*Middlesex Records*) daughter of his uncle Rev. John Reade, Rector of Stratton Major Parish; 4. Col. George,² removed to Northwestern Va., and appears to have been quite a prominent man in that section. He was a member of the House of Burgesses 1774, and member, from West Augusta, of the Convention of July, 1775; 6. Mildred,¹ married Feb. 4, 1762, Augustine Smith, of "Shooter's Hill," Middlesex; 7. Elizabeth,² married Rev. John Thompson, Rector of St. Mark's Parish, Culpeper; 8. Priscilla² married Benj. Grymes, of Spotsylvania; 9. Mary,² married, in 1772, Colonel Anthony Thornton, of "Ormsbey," Caroline; county-lieutennant during the Revolution, and, probably, Lucy, who married Roger Dixon.

3. THOMAS READE² ROOTES, married on Feb. 8th, 1768 (*Middlesex Records*) Maria daughter of John Smith of "Shooter's Hill," Middlesex, and had issue at least one son. (John Smith, of "Purton," Gloucester county, Va., married, February 17, 1680, Mary, daughter of Colonel Augustine Warner, of "Warner Hall," Gloucester, who was Speaker of the Burgesses, and Councillor, and died April 17, 1698. He was the grandfather of John Smith, of "Shooter's Hill," Middlesex, who married Mary, daughter of Edward Jaqueline, of Jamestown, and his wife, Martha, daughter of William Cary, and granddaughter of Colonel Miles Cary, of Warwick county, also a member of the Council. John and Mary Smith were parents of Maria, who married T. R. Rootes.)

10. THOMAS READE⁴ ROOTES, of "Federal Hill," near Fredericksburg, Va., and afterwards of "White marsh," Gloucester county. He

was born February 23, 1763, and died January 23, 1824; was a distinguished lawyer, and was member of the House of Delegates in 1793 and perhaps other years. He married, 1st, Sarah Ryng Battaile, born May, 1765, died March 13, 1811 [*Family Bible*, which also contains entry of the deaths of Miss Mary Robinson, maternal aunt of Mrs. Rootes, who died July 17, 1813, aged 83 years and 10 months; of Mrs. Lucy Thornton, sister of Mrs. Rootes, who was born October 24, 1767, and died without issue July 1, 1840; and of her husband, Boswell Thornton, born September 4, 1764, died June 16, 1799]. T. R. Rootes married, 2d, Mrs. Prosser, and had no issue by this marriage. Issue (1st marriage): 11. *Martha Jacqueline*,⁵ 12. *Thomas Reade*,⁵ 13. Mary Robinson,⁶ born November 21, 1788, died January 29, 1811; married, December 10, 1809, William Fitzhugh Gordon, of Albemarle county, Va.; member Congress 1829-35, and long a member of the State Legislature. No issue by this marriage; 14. *Sarah Robinson*,⁵ 15. Laura Battaile,⁵ born July 4, 1797, died unmarried October 25, 1817; 16. *Edward Jacqueline Smilh*,⁵ 17. *Serena Ryng*.⁵

11. MARTHA JACQUELINE⁵ ROOTES, born September 28, 1786, married, 1st, on May 8, 1810, Howell Cobb,* of Georgia, captain U. S. A. and M. C. (born August 3, 1772, died May 26, 1818); no issue. She married, 2d, September 10, 1819, Dr. Henry Jackson, an Englishman, Professor of Philosophy and Chemistry in the University of Georgia, and younger brother of James Jackson, M. C. and Governor of Georgia. They were the parents of (1) Henry Rootes⁶ Jackson, of Savannah, distinguished as a lawyer, diplomatist and soldier, who served in the Mexican war and was brigadier-general C. S. A. His son, Henry R.⁷ Jackson, Jr., is a distinguished lawyer of Atlanta, and married his cousin, a daughter of General T. R. R. Cobb; (2) Martha,⁶ married Colonel F. H. Erwin; (3) Sarah,⁶ married Oliver H. Prince.

12. THOMAS READE⁵ ROOTES, of Fredericksburg, Va., born January 18, 1785, died November 2, 1820. He was educated in Edinburgh, and

*It appears from various authentic records that Samuel. John and Edmund Cobbs, brothers, lived in Goochland county, Va., prior to the Revolution. The former married Mary, daughter of Colonel Robert Lewis, and was father of Robert Cobbs, who was a captain in the Revolutionary army from Virginia, and received land bounty for his services. He has descendants in Georgia. John Cobbs removed from Goochland to Georgia prior to 1784, as in the Goochland tax-list for that year appears the entry "John Cobbs (Georgia) 22 slaves, 38 cattle, 10 horses." John Cobbs, or Cobb (to which form the name was changed), married Mildred, daughter of Howell Lewis, of Granville county, N. C., son of Charles Lewis, of "The Bird," Goochland county, Va., and was the father of John Addison and Howell Cobb, named above. The three brothers, first named, had an uncle, Thomas Cobb, who also removed to Georgia, and was ancestor of Thomas W. Cobb, U. S. Senator from that State. Mary Willis Cobb, youngest sister of Howell and John A., married William Jackson, son of Governor James Jackson, of Georgia, and had a son, James Jackson, who was M. C., and died a few years since while chief justice of Georgia, and a daughter, Mildred Lewis Cobb Jackson, who married Colonel John D. Grant, and was the mother of Captain William D. Grant, of Atlanta.

was a lawyer; married, April 23, 1807, Anna (born April 1, 1791, died, Jefferson City, Mo., May 8, 1871), third daughter of Dr. George French, of Spotsylvania county, Va.

Issue: 18. Anna French,⁶ born January 27, 1808, died 1839; married, Fredericksburg, December 11, 1839, William Garret Minor, and left two sons; (1) Butler,⁷ married in San Francisco, and left one son, Butler;⁸ (2) Mann Page,⁸ born November, 1848, of San Francisco, unmarried in 1894; 19. *Thomas Reade*,⁶ 20. *George French*,⁶ 21. Edward Smith,⁶ born March 15, 1814, died September 21, 1820; 22. James,⁶ born October 25, 1817, died unmarried; 23. *Lawrence Jacqueline*.

14. SARAH ROBINSON⁵ ROOTES, born September 20, 1792, married, April 11, 1812, Colonel John Addison Cobb (born January 5, 1783, died November 21, 1855). Issue: 24. Howell,⁶ born September 7, 1815, died October 9, 1868; married Mary Ann Lamar. Many years M. C. from Georgia, Speaker of House of Representatives, Secretary of Treasury under President Buchanan, President of the Provisional Congress, and major-general C. S. A. He left Judge Howell Cobb, of Athens, Ga., three other sons and two daughters, all married; 25. Laura Battaile,⁶ married, March 23, 1841, Professor Williams Rutherford, of Athens, Ga., and had a son, a distinguished lawyer, who died in 1891, and four daughters, living in 1894, viz: Mary Ann,⁷ married Frank Lipscomb, Professor of Belle's Lettres in the University of Georgia at his death about 1874, and son of Dr. A. A. Lipscomb, Chancellor of the same University; Bessie,⁷ married George A. Mell, Chancellor of the University of Georgia; Millie,⁷ Principal of the Lucy Cobb Institute, Athens, Ga., and Laura Williams,⁷ married Joshua C. Hutchins, now of Athens, Ga.; 26. Mildred Lewis⁶ of Atlanta Ga., married Col. Luther J. Glenn, and is mother of Thomas⁷ Glenn, a distinguished lawyer of Atlanta, 27. Thos. Reade Rootes,⁶ regarded in his day as the most eminent lawyer of Georgia; Brigadier General C. S. A., and killed at the battle of Fredricksburg. He married Marian Lumpkin and left three daughters, all married, one of them being the wife of Hon. Hoke Smith, present Secretary of the Interior; 28. Mary Willis,⁶ married 1st, Col. F. H. Erwin, and 2d, Dr. John N. Johnson and had four children; 29. Martha,⁶ married Major John C. Whitner of Atlanta. 30. John Boswell,⁶ died 1894; married 1st, Mary Athena Lamar, and 2d Alice Culler, and left six children.

16. EDWARD JACQUELINE SMITH⁵ ROOTES, of Gloucester county, Va., born January 27, 1804; died July 20, 1840. Married Emily, daughter of Thomas Robins, of Gloucester county, and had issue: Thomas R.⁶ and Sarah A.,⁶ married E. J. Thruston, of Gloucester.

17. SERENA RYNG ROOTES,⁵ born Oct. 5, 1802, died 1889, married Aug 5, 1828, Henry Clinton Lea, of Georgia, who removed to Alabama. Had issue: (1) Lucy,⁶ married Dr. J. N. Langhorne; (2.) Col. Sumter,⁶ a prominent lawyer of Birmingham, Ala. (3.) Henry C.⁶ married Bettie

Mosely; (4.) Martha,⁶ married Jas. A. Harwood; (5.) Mary Willis,⁶ married B. F. Harwood.

19. THOS. READE⁶ ROOTES, born Dec. 10, 1809, died—; commader U. S. and C. S. N., married Jan. 24, 1838 Mary Overton, daughter of Garrett Minor.

Issue: 31. Elizabeth T.⁷ married Mann Page Minor, and had one child Fountain Meriwether, married, and living in Louisano, Pike Co., Mo., in 1894; 32. Thos. Reade,⁷ born Apl. 3d, 1840, married Willie Sampson, San Jose, Cal., and had one child, Thos. Reade⁸ Rootes; 33. Ann Overton,⁷ married Major N. C. Kouns; 34. Lawrence M.⁷ born Apl. 30, 1845, married his cousin Mary Rootes and had one son Felix; 35. George M.⁷ of Fulton, Mo., married Fannie Watson, and had one son, Francis Reade.⁸

20. GEORGE FRENCH⁶ ROOTES, born March 17, 1812, married and lived in Memphis, Tenn., and had issue (1.) Betty,⁷ (2.) George,⁷ unmarried; living in New Orleans in 1894; (3.) William,⁷ married and left a widow and three children living in Memphis in 1894.

23. LAWRENCE JACQUELINE⁶ ROOTES, married Betty Gathright, and had (1.) Anna,⁷ married J. W. Howe; (2.) George,⁷ married but had no issue in 1894; (3.) Mary,⁷ married Lawrence Rootes; (4.) Bettie,⁷ married Winston Griffin; (5.) William,⁷ married and had issue.

The account of the descendants of T. R. Rootes and Mary Smith, is derived chiefly from records in family bibles, with information from the family as to late generations.

[The Coat of Arms accompanying this article is published at the expense of a descendant in Georgia, and is from a book-plate believed to be that of Philip Rootes, first of the name.]